BAE
A 36.2 C29 71

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Release -
12:00 Noon (E.T.)
October 15, 1934.

CATTLE FEEDING SITUATION - OCTOBER 1, 1934

Although the condition of pastures in the Corn Belt States during the summer was the lowest on record and prospects for feed grain and hay production about the poorest ever known the shipment of stocker and feeder cattle into these States has been relatively large. Total shipments, inspected through markets, for the 3 months, July to September (with September estimated) were about 650,000 head. This number was about 50 percent larger than the very small shipments for these months in 1933, about 18 percent larger than the 5-year (1929-33) average, and the largest for the period since 1928.

In July this year, when prospects for a corn crop were still fairly good over much of the Corn Belt, the movement into all the States was relatively large, with the total over twice as large as in 1933 and the largest for the month since 1925. In August and September the movement into the States where the effects of the drought were most serious dropped off sharply but into other States it continued large. For the three months the 5 Eastern Corn Belt States received over twice as many cattle as in 1933 and the largest number since 1926. In addition there was a rather heavy movement of "Government" cattle into these States for pasture. Of the Western Corn Belt States Iowa and Minnesota are the only ones where receipt of cattle this year during the 3 months exceeded last year's with the movement into Iowa especially large.

To what extent these increased receipts of stocker and feeder cattle in the States where there have been increases will be reflected in enlarged feeding operations this winter is uncertain. The character of the cattle shipped from 4 large markets would indicate that a larger than usual proportion of these cattle were bought for stockers, rather than for feeders. The numbers of heavy cattle (over 900 pounds) shipped from these markets during the 3 months was below the very small shipments of last year and the largest increases over last year were in steers under 700 pounds, in calves and in cows and heifers. In the drought States undoubtedly, cattle feeding during the next 12 months will be on a greatly reduced scale.

Reports from the western States are to the effect that cattle feeding in all of these, except possibly California, will be reduced as a result of the small supplies and high prices of grain and hay and feeding at cotton seed mills in Texas will also be sharply curtailed.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
3 1262 08867 1309

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Release-
12:00 (Noon)
October 15, 1934

LAMB FEEDING SITUATION - OCTOBER 1, 1934

The total number of lambs fed for market this season will probably be considerably smaller than last year or any other recent year, but there will be a considerable difference in the changes this year from last in different areas. The Corn-Belt States east of the Missouri River as a whole will probably feed more lambs this year than last, but there is expected to be a sharp reduction in the numbers fed in the western Corn Belt and in the western States.

Shipments of feeder lambs, inspected through markets, into the Corn Belt States for the three months, July to September, (with September estimated) were about 800,000 head, an increase of nearly 40 per cent over the small shipments in 1933 and 1932, but 10 per cent smaller than the five-year (1929-33) average for these months. Shipments into the States east of the Mississippi were nearly 2½ times as large this year as last and there were also marked increases in the numbers going into Iowa and Minnesota. Shipments into the States west of the Missouri River, however, were much smaller this year than last. Direct shipments (not going through stockyard markets) into the western Corn Belt will also be much smaller this year than last.

The larger shipment this year to the end of September reflect, in part, the larger number of feeder lambs available early in the season, resulting from the unusual proportion of western lambs marketed during these months that were only in feeder condition. It is not expected that shipments of feeders into the Corn Belt from markets during the rest of the season will be relatively as large as during the 3 months, July to September. Because of the reduced number of lambs that will be moved direct to feeders in the western Corn Belt, however, it is probable that a larger than usual proportion of the western feeder lambs yet to be moved will go through stockyard markets and the shipments from these markets will continue large.

While the movement of feeder lambs into feeding areas in the western States will not be in large volume until the end of October, reports from these States show that the total number of lambs fed will be considerably smaller this year than last. In Colorado present indications are that the number of lambs fed will be considerably below last year with reductions of from 20 to 30 per cent in Northern Colorado and 30 to 40 per cent in the Arkansas Valley. Feeding in the other Rocky Mountain States and in the Inter-Mountain States will also be on a much reduced scale but there will probably be some increase in all of the Pacific Coast States, where feed supplies, although relatively high priced, are more plentiful.